



Lower Salt Creek Watershed-based Planning

Thursday, August 10 2017 ♦ 1:00 p.m.
Village of Villa Park – Village Hall
20 S. Ardmore Avenue, Villa Park, IL 60181

Meeting Notes

1. Welcome and Attendee Introductions

- *Holly Hudson and Emma Swanson, CMAP*

Holly Hudson welcomed the attendees and thanked everyone for coming. After introducing herself and colleague Emma Swanson, Holly reviewed the meeting agenda and asked all attendees to introduce themselves.

- *The Honorable Robert (Bob) Wagner, Trustee, Village of Villa Park*

Bob Wagner acknowledged the Village of Villa Park's efforts in water quality management and highlighted some of the Village's sustainability initiatives. The Village has been active in the Cool DuPage Program (<https://www.dupageco.org/CoolDuPage/>), which aims at reducing overall greenhouse gas emissions. The Village was also named in the Top 25 municipalities within the Greenest Region Compact (<http://mayorscaucus.org/initiatives/environment/rec/>). In addition, the Village collaborates with the SCARCE (School & Community Assistance for Recycling & Composting Education) non-profit to do programs such as cooking oil collection, pumpkin composting, and other composting/recycling programs. The Village has also worked with Active Transportation Alliance to expand and improve bike trails within the area. Bob concluded that the Village is dedicated to environmental initiatives, which is why the Village has an Environmental Concerns Commission to advise the Village President and the Board of Trustees on environmentally related topics/issues.

2. June Meeting: brief recap, questions, etc. – *Holly Hudson, CMAP*

Holly gave a brief overview of the June meeting. Attendees had no questions or comments at this time. Holly asked that any corrections to the draft meeting notes be submitted within the next week, after which the notes will be finalized and posted on the project webpage on the CMAP website.

3. Local Spotlight: Villa Park's Water Quality/Green Infrastructure Projects – *Jeremie Lukowicz, Village of Villa Park*

Jeremie Lukowicz, Assistant Engineer at the Village of Villa Park, presented about water quality projects that have been implemented throughout the Village. The Village currently has two major water quality projects underway: the Monterey Water Quality Project and the Washington Green Infrastructure Project. The Monterey Water Quality project involved digging new ditches alongside poor draining, unimproved streets. Jeremie noted that the new ditching was not as successful as they had hoped, so they plan to introduce amended soils and native plantings in place of the new ditches to help with flooding issues. The Washington Green Infrastructure Project involved the Village assessing the combined sewer system in the area that is resulting in major flooding/drainage issues. The separation of the system would be extremely costly, so the Village has decided to use green infrastructure technologies to improve the conditions. Jeremie highlighted three target sites within the project that will be getting green infrastructure improvements – one on Grant Street, one at 546 S. Euclid, and one area between East and West Washington. Grant Street will be widened and will have new permeable pavers installed, as well as new bioswales to alleviate flooding and drainage issues from not having a storm sewer. The property located at 546 S. Euclid has undergone a property buyout and will be redeveloped as a retention basin, and neighboring properties will be regraded to allow for proper drainage. The third area, East & West Washington, will get new bioswales to help with major flooding and drainage issues. Overall, the Village is very motivated to reduce flooding by introducing new green infrastructure to the community.

4. Watershed Resource Inventory: updates

4.1. Salt Creek Basin monitoring and assessments – Deanna Doohaluk, DRSCW

Deanna Doohaluk with the DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup (DRSCW) announced that the data collected from the continuous dissolved oxygen (DO) monitors that were stationed in Salt Creek has not been finalized, so she was unable to give an update on that data today. Instead, she presented an example of dam removal and bank naturalization that DRSCW worked on at the Oak Meadows Golf Course on Salt Creek. Previous data collection showed that DO (dissolved oxygen) levels and QHEI (habitat) scores in Salt Creek at the Oak Meadows Golf Course dam were significantly lower than other areas of Salt Creek. The presence of the dam, as well as other artificial elements including sheet piling and concrete A-jacks caused the water in the stream to be slow moving, often leading to large algae blooms. The algae blooms caused the decrease in DO levels, which resulted in poor water and habitat quality throughout that portion of Salt Creek. DRSCW supported stream enhancement projects, including removing the dam and other artificial elements and replacing them with stone substrate and large wood installations for stabilization and deflection, as well as to mimic more natural stream habitat features. Backwater habitats were also created at several points along the stream, in addition to improving floodplain connection. The objectives of these stream enhancements were to reduce major flooding, improve overall stream habitat, and improve aquatic life use.

4.2. Pollutant Load Modelling – Holly Hudson, CMAP

Holly provided a brief overview of the STEPL model that DuPage County Stormwater Management used to estimate land-use based pollutant loads for total nitrogen (TN), total phosphorus (TP), total suspended solids (TSS), and biological oxygen demand (BOD). She then showed charts generated by STEPL showing the total annual load for each parameter

from each of the 14 subwatershed study units, and figures prepared by CMAP illustrating the relative annual loading rate of each study unit. Subwatershed #13, Addison Creek Central, generated the highest pollutant loads for all constituents. This is related to the fact that this subunit has the greatest acreage of roads (notably Interstate) and industrial land use among all 14 subwatersheds. Also generating relatively higher pollutant loads are the Addison Creek South (#14) and Devon Avenue Tributary (#5) subwatersheds.

5. **Problem Statement and Goals** – *Holly Hudson, CMAP*

Holly noted the handout available on the check-in table, then presented a slightly updated draft problem statement. The statement highlighted that:

- Surface waterbodies are impacted by nonpoint source pollution.
- Data indicates that many surface waterbodies do not meet water quality standards or designated uses.
- Pollutant loads entering surface waterbodies are oftentimes related to land use.
- Protective actions are needed to address NPS pollution.

Holly then reviewed the definition and purpose of goals and presented the five draft goals, updated based on stakeholder input during the June meeting:

- Improve and protect the ecological integrity of surface water resources to attain or maintain designated uses of aquatic life support, fish consumption, primary contact, and aesthetic quality.
- Protect, restore, and expand [natural areas] [open space] and increase native [aquatic] species diversity [both terrestrial and aquatic plants and animals].
- Reduce flooding and attendant bank erosion and infrastructure risk through initiatives to improve and protect water quality.
- Continue to build, strengthen, and support local partnerships and expertise to protect our streams and lakes via plan implementation.
- Continue to raise public awareness and increase understanding of the impacts of land use and land/water management decisions on water and habitat quality, and further encourage implementation of watershed protection practices.

Holly asked for any suggestions or input on the language of the problem statement or goals. For the third goal, support was voiced to include both aquatic and terrestrial plants and animals, and both terms open space and natural areas. Holly also introduced the idea of developing “Management Objectives” under each goal and offered some examples. These will be expanded upon for review and input at the next meeting.

6. **Potential Nonpoint Source Pollution Control BMP Projects**

6.1. **Online Submittals via BMP Identification Survey** – *Holly Hudson, CMAP*

Holly presented the entries through August 7 from the BMP Identification Survey that was introduced at the June meeting. The survey inputs were used to create a map that shows the three different types of BMPs: BMP opportunities, BMPs underway, and BMPs completed. Another map was created to show the different BMPs by type.

These maps were provided as a handout at the meeting and are also available on the LSC Project Website. Holly also announced that the survey is still active, and the next set of

results will be collected on September 1. DCSM will be estimating pollutant load reductions and implementation costs for the BMP opportunities.

6.2. Planning and Policy recommendations – Holly Hudson, CMAP

Holly discussed the importance of land use planning for setting the big picture. She described how CMAP has been reviewing the existing comprehensive plans for the 33 municipalities within the LSC Watershed using a checklist based on U.S. EPA's Water Quality Scorecard. Holly reviewed some of the topics within the assessment:

- Natural Resources – identifying & mapping resource areas
- Water Resources – identifying, mapping, & protecting
- Open Space – for preservation & stormwater management
- Trees – preservation & planting
- Development and Land Use – compact development, infill, design
- Transportation/Parking – Alternative modes & imperviousness

Holly discussed some of the key findings based on the assessment of the municipalities' comprehensive plans. Most municipalities did in fact have a comprehensive plan; however, neither county had a comprehensive plan, and several municipal plans are 10+ years old and most likely require an update. Some recommendations that CMAP has for the municipalities based on the assessment of their comprehensive plans include:

- Develop Comprehensive Plan: 5 municipalities and both counties
- Update older Comprehensive Plan: 11 municipalities
- Update or amend Comprehensive Plans to include recommendations for/to:
 - Natural resource management: Bellwood, Bloomingdale, Broadview, Brookfield, LaGrange Park, Oakbrook Terrace
 - Transit-oriented development: Bloomingdale, LaGrange Park
 - Walking and biking as alt. transportation modes: Broadview
 - Groundwater protection: all municipalities
- Develop stormwater management plan: DuPage Co. [DCSM staff noted that the County does have a plan and will send CAMP a link]
- Develop natural resources management plan: FPD of DuPage Co.

Holly announced that the next step is to collect information about municipal ordinances. This will be done using a survey that will be sent out by CMAP. The questionnaire will ask if the ordinance addresses specific issues related to the following topics:

- Stormwater Drainage & Detention
- Soil Erosion & Sediment Control
- Floodplain Management
- Stream & Wetland Protection
- Natural Areas & Open Space
- Conservation Design & Infill
- Landscaping
- Transportation & Parking
- Water Efficiency & Conservation
- Pollution Prevention

6.3. Information and Education Component – Holly Hudson, CMAP

Holly kicked off the group discussion by stating that information/education/outreach activities should support each of the watershed goals. She asked the attendees if there are any key audiences that should be targeted. The following are comments from attendees:

- Municipalities, Contractors, Interested Stakeholder Groups (public sector)
- Residents and businesses (private sector) should be separate and should be targeted
- Park districts and forest preserve districts often get overlooked, but are key stakeholders because they own a lot of the public land
- Garden Groups are also key stakeholders that could become allies through outreach
- Industrial/Commercial Outreach is important, but it should also be noted that the NPDES permit is already strictly required
- Cook County officials should be a target audience, because MWRD handles a lot of their stormwater management, so those officials need to be re-engaged

Holly also asked the attendees what some effective message delivery formats may be for reaching different audiences. The following comments are answers from attendees:

- Online surveys/questionnaires
- Paper format, perhaps in quarterly municipal newsletters or more frequent park district newsletters
- Work with programs such as SCARCE and The Conservation Foundation to help get the word out using their presence

Holly asked the attendees to submit information on any existing programs that they know about and provide examples/ideas.

6.4. Next Steps

Holly again encouraged submittals to the BMP survey and requested that an email address be provided where indicated on the last input screen so that staff can follow up with any questions. Please submit projects Sept. 1; DCSM will begin to calculate pollutant load reduction and cost estimates. The ordinance questionnaire will be sent and the information and education component of the plan will be developed.

7. Call for LSC Watershed Photos

Holly asked for submissions of photographs taken within the Lower Salt Creek Watershed planning area. A variety of subjects are welcome. All photos should be sent to Holly Hudson in high resolution JPG format accompanied by the subject, location, year/month, and credit of for photo. A handout is available on the check-in table.

8. Next Meeting

Holly noted that the next meeting is planned for Thursday, October 5, 2017, at 1:00 p.m. A host location is needed.

9. Local Watershed Activities, News, Announcements

Holly noted the following as printed on the agenda:

- LSC project webpage: <http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/programs-and-resources/lta/lower-salt-creek>
- DuPage County's Citizen Reporter: <https://gis.dupageco.org/CitizenReporter/>
- DRSCW bi-monthly meeting: June 28, 9:00 a.m., Lombard Village Hall (<http://www.drscw.org>)

- **MWRD Watershed Planning Council meetings** (search “MWRD-WPC meeting schedule”):
 - Upper Salt Creek and Poplar Creek: Oct. 18, 2017, 10:30 a.m., Schaumburg
 - Lower Des Plaines River Tributaries: Aug. 10, 2017 – *cancelled*, Nov. 9, 2017, 10:00 a.m., Northlake
- **Others...**

No other announcements were noted by attendees.

10. Adjournment

The meeting ended at about 2:40 p.m.

Attendees

<u>NAME</u>		<u>ORGANIZATION</u>
Craig	Billington	Forest Preserves of Cook County
Simon	Christensen	DuPage County Stormwater Management
Deanna	Doohaluk	The Conservation Foundation / DuPage River Salt Creek Workgroup
Rudy	Espidido	Village of Addison
Holly	Hudson	Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
Sarah	Hunn	DuPage County Stormwater Management
Jeremie	Lukowicz	Village of Villa Park
Amy	McKenna	Robinson Engineering (representing Itasca, Wood Dale, Roselle)
Mary	Mitros	DuPage County Stormwater Management
Eric	Otto	Forest Preserves of Cook County
Lynn	Rotunno	Salt Creek Watershed Network
Sarah	Runger	Hey & Associates
Scott	Saacke	Salt Creek Watershed Network
Emma	Swanson	Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
Robert	Wagner	Village of Villa Park
Philip	Wille	Salt Creek Watershed Network